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of *Fraxinus americana*. Though primarily intended for the pharmacist, these articles are of no little value to the botanist, and Dr. Kremers is to be congratulated on the promising outlook for his new journal. T.

**Indiana Botany.**—Several articles in the *Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science* for 1896, recently issued, are of interest to botanists; namely, "Notes on the Flora of Lake Cicott and Lake Maxinkuckee," by Robert Hessler; "Notes on Some Phanerogams New or Rare to the State," by W. S. Blatchley; "Periodicity of Root Pressure," by M. B. Thomas; "Notes on the Flora of the Lake Region of Northeastern Indiana," by W. W. Chipman; "Additions to the Published Lists of Indiana Cryptogams," by L. M. Underwood; "The Bacteriological Flora of the Air in Stables," by A. W. Bitting and C. E. Davis; "An Experimental Study on the Pathogenic Properties of Common Yeasts"; "Exceptional Growth of a Wild Rose," by Stanley Coulter; "A Revision of the Genus *Plantago* occurring within the United States," by Alida M. Cunningham, in which *P. minima* and *P. rubra* are described as new; "The Effect of Drought upon Certain Plants," by Clara A. Cunningham; "Additions to the Cryptogamic Flora of Indiana," by J. C. Arthur; "The Uredineæ of Tippecanoe County," by Lillian Snyder; and "The Occurrence of the Russian Thistle in Wabash County," by A. R. Ulrey. As might be expected, the papers are of very unequal value, and while those of local interest are useful, if somewhat fragmentary, the one monograph is scarcely likely to add materially to a knowledge of the group it deals with.

**Sugar Cane.**—The Bureau of Agriculture and Immigration of Louisiana has recently issued the first volume of a treatise on the history, botany, and agriculture of sugar cane and the chemistry and manufacture of its juices into sugar and other products, by Prof. W. C. Stubbs, Director of the Audubon Park Experiment Station at New Orleans. One chapter is devoted to the botanical relations of the plant, one to its anatomy and physiology, one to its modes of reproduction, and one to bacteriological notes on red cane. The remainder of the volume is historical and agricultural.

**Digestion in Pitcher Plants.**—It has been variously claimed that the digestion of proteides in the pitchers of *Nepenthes* is due to a digestive ferment secreted by them and to the action of bacteria growing in their secretion. Professor Vines, in the *Annals of Botany*